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JOHNSTON WINS 5th S.D. SPECIAL ELECTION.

In the first of what might end up being called, "The Year of the Special Election," Demo Assemblyman Patrick Johnston of Stockton defeated San Joaquin Co. GOP chairman Phil Wallace to win the remaining 2 years on Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi's term in the CA State Senate. Johnston got 56.9% and had an almost 18,000 vote margin, with 5,000 AV ballots yet to be counted...

...With Johnston's victory, the Demo majority in Calif.'s upper house jumps to 26, with 1 independent, 11 GOP members and 2 vacancies: John(s) Seymour & Doolittle. If the Demos should somehow pull an upset in either of the vacant districts, Demo Leader David Roberti would have a 2/3rds majority. Odds of that happening are remote, but not impossible - especially in the 1st S.D....

...The Johnston victory is also a big win for consultant Richie Ross, as well as for the Demo Senate Leadership team. The margin of difference was the Demo GOTV effort in San Joaquin Co.(Stockton), where the popular lawmaker cleaned house, with help from the CA Demo Party and many of his Demo legislative friends. Whatever the case, Ross and the Demo Senate leadership are happy this special is over because there were so many unknowns in the race...

...Another Special: With Johnston moving to the CA State Senate, his 26th Assembly District job is now open. There are at least 3 Demos looking things over: Stockton Councilwoman Loralee McGaughey, Patty Garamendi(wife of John) and Demo activist Dario Marenco, who ran Patricia Malberg's San Joaquin Co. congressional operation against John Doolittle(R) last year. The GOP name to surface is Dean Andal, a media consultant who used to work for former U.S. Rep. Norm Shumway(R). Stay tuned...

WILSON HAS CALIF. GOP CONSERVATIVES FUMING.

Editor's note: While there is still a certain amount of mystery on how new CA Gov. Pete Wilson(R) will cope with a mounting fiscal crisis, the cloak of secrecy is already off on his RELATIONSHIP with the conservative wing of the Calif. Republican Party. Here is CALPEEK's analysis of what has angered the Republican Right...

...Calif.'s hardline conservatives, who can often make or break a political campaign, came UNGLUED shortly after 1 p.m., Jan. 2, 1991. That's when Pete Wilson did what conservatives feel is the UNFORGIVABLE: he appointed his buddy John Seymour to his U.S. Senate seat. Naming Seymour was like throwing raw meat to a pack of lions, due to Seymour's 1989 flip-flop from a long held PRO-LIFE stance to PRO-CHOICE. What is worse, anti-abortion conservatives feel Wilson betrayed an earlier promise made in private NOT to use choice as a litmus test in naming a successor...

...But even before the Seymour appointment hardliners were starting to grumble. Why? Conservatives were being overlooked for key jobs in the new administration. And when Wilson made his first appointments to his new cabinet, the hardliners knew they were in for a long 4 years. And it isn't just cabinet officers such as Demo Maureen DiMarco of Education & Child Development Services or former Sierra Club director Doug Wheeler, the Resources Agency Secretary, that has conservatives bent out of shape. They don't like the people Wilson has named from the previous administration. A conservative source described these individuals as "GELDING HOLDOVERS."...

...Exacerbating an already tense political climate is Wilson's involvement in the con-

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servative infighting for GOP U.S. Rep. John Doolittle's 1st State Senate District seat which just became vacant when Doolittle was sworn into the House. According to CALPEEK sources, in a not-so-secret meeting in Palm Springs after the election, the GOP State Senate leadership determined Republicans might not be able to hold the 1st S.D. if hardline conservative Placer Co. Sup. Mike Fluty won the nomination. Way too conservative on the issues was the allegation. So GOP Senate Leader Ken Maddy got the governor-elect to ask GOP State Assemblyman Tim Leslie of Sacto to reconsider his previous decision not to run, the theory being that only Leslie could hold the 1st S.D. in the GOP column...

...What's happened now is an extremely NASTY Republican civil war between Leslie and Fluty, with El Dorado Co. Sup. Bob Dorr (R), Richard Gann(R) and Siskiyou Co. Sup. Patty Jackson Mattingly(D) smiling from the sidelines, while GOP Assembly Leader Ross Johnson worries about finding a replacement for Leslie, if he wins...

...There is consensus among CALPEEK sources who believe Wilson made a serious political blunder in getting involved in the 1st S.D. special because it has intensified the distrust of Wilson from those who successfully worked for conservative GOP Assemblyman David Knowles -- many of whom now back Mike Fluty. More next week...

...FYI: Looking for an upcoming GOP event where hardliners might do an excess amount of Wilson/Seymour bashing? Try the Calif. Republican Assembly's special convention at the Sandman Inn in Santa Barbara, Jan. 18 to 20. The CRA is a very conservative GOP volunteer/grassroots group -- and they love U.S. Rep. Bill Dannemeyer(R-Fullerton), who may challenge Seymour in 1992...

LOCKYER'S SB 113 TO STOP SLATE SHENANIGANS. State Sen. Bill Lockyer(D-Hayward) has introduced SB 113 to crack down on one of the most common complaints associated with the growing and lucrative field of SLATE MAIL – the practice of slipping a Demo candidate onto a GOP designed slate or vice-versa. In the November 1990 election, there were two good examples: GOP AG Dan Lungren's name was carried on political consultant Clint Reilly's Demo slate, while defeated Demo Assemblyman Norm Waters of Placerville was on a GOP mailer designed by slatemaker Fred Huebscher. The new law won't prevent slatemakers from continuing this practice, but from now on the candidate from the opposite party must have his/her party designation in 10-pt. type face. Since this is an amendment to the 1974 Political Reform Act, a 2/3rds vote is needed...

KEEPING TRACK OF CALIF. SPECIAL ELECTIONS. Editor's note: Here's a brief rundown on special elections in the weeks and months ahead...

- L.A. Co. 1st Supervisorial District – to replace retiring Sup. Pete Schabarum. Primary Jan. 22. (See story for names)...

- 1st Senate District – To replace John Doolittle. Primary Mar. 12, 19 or 26. (See Wilson vs. conservatives for names)...

- 35th Senate District – To replace John Seymour. No date yet as CALPEEK went to press, but probably late March. Candidates IN – attorney Dana Reed(R) and GOP Assembly members Doris Allen, John Lewis and Nolan Frizzell. Candidates OUT – Orange Co. Sup. Gaddi Vasquez(R) and Costa Mesa Councilman Peter Buffa(R)...

- 26th A.D. – To replace newly elected State Sen. Patrick Johnston(D). No date as yet, but probably late March...

DEMO ACTIVISTS DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR FUNDS. Editor's note: This is a follow-up story to last week's article about Demo fundraising activist Phil Angelides' efforts to get the CA Demo Party to draft a fundraising blueprint for future Demo registration and GOTV activities...

...Following CA Demo Party rules, Angelides and his supporters have begun circulating a RESOLUTION for presentation to the CDP's convention in March, calling on the party to impound 65% of all telemarketing funds (beginning 6/1/91) for use in voter registration and GOTV efforts for the 1991-92 election cycle. Angelides had wanted an 80% impound, but after meeting for 3 hours with CDP Chair Jerry Brown on Jan. 4, this compromise was agreed to...

...The resolution also calls for setting up

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a special account, whereby contributors can donate money earmarked only for GOTV or voter registration purposes. The resolution also requires the CDP chairman to appoint a committee to draft a detailed plan for GOTV/registration for the '92 election, to be presented to the CDP's "E Board" on 5/1/91 and implemented 6/1/91...

...Although others may still be out after Jerry Brown's scalp for the 1990 election screw ups, sources say Angelides has told Brown that's not his intent...

...FYI: Some CALPEEK sources believe Brown wants to hold his current job until after 1992 (instead of running for the U.S. Senate), at which time he may run for the DNC chairmanship, a position now held by Ron Brown. Why DNC chair? It would be a great platform from which to launch another drive by Jerry for the White House in the later part of the 1990s...

L.A. CITY ELECTION: WHO'S RUNNING IN 1991. Editor's note: Here's a brief update on who's running for the EVEN numbered seats on the L.A. City Council. The primary is April 9. Intent to file opened Jan. 9 and will close Jan. 14, so this report will be updated next week...

...At this point, CALPEEK sources do NOT expect serious confrontations for incumbents Joel Wachs(2nd Dist.), Council Pres. John Ferraro(4th Dist.) or Richard Alatorre (14th Dist.). There have been some rumors about a serious challenge to Nate Holden in the 10th District, but nothing has developed so far...

...Last week CALPEEK gave a preliminary rundown on the open 8th and 9th districts. The only new item to report is that L.A. School Bd. member Rita Walters is giving serious consideration to running in the 9th district (Gil Lindsay's seat)...

...Much of the activity in the last few days has centered on incumbent Ruth Galanter's 6th district and Councilman Hal Bernson's 12th district. In the 6th, CALPEEK sources feel Galanter may be in for a rough reelection fight. There are 9 potential candidates, plus Chutney (a dog), who may file. HOWEVER, there's really only one serious contender, Mary Lee Gray, who has been an L.A. Co. supervisorial deputy for 18 years. Very savvy politically and she has hired consultant Harvey Englander and pollster Arnie Steinberg. That's heavyweight opposition. Galanter's consultants are Mark Litchman and Steve Glazer...

...As for Bernson, there are at least 2 credible challengers who may enter the race: businessman Walter Prince, who led an unsuccessful recall against Bernson about 1-2 years ago; and perhaps School Bd. member Julie Korenstein. Bernson has hired Cerrell Associates to run his reelection, with Afriat/Blackstone to handle fundraising. Stay tuned...

IT'S ANYONE'S GUESS AS TO WHICH TWO L.A. SUPERVISOR CANDIDATES WILL MAKE A RUNOFF. If there's a question that continually gets asked by CALPEEK readers, it's about the upcoming Jan. 22nd L.A. County supervisor's race in the new 1st District, where four strong candidates are battling to become the first Hispanic on the County Board of Supervisors. While it is difficult to predict the final outcome, there's almost NO doubt that there will be a runoff between 2 of the 4 strong challengers. But which two???

...Of the four strong challengers, CALPEEK sources think Sarah Flores(R), a former top deputy to Sup. Pete Schabarum, and State Sen. Art Torres(D), are the ones to beat. But this is not a unanimous opinion. Some CALPEEK sources say State Sen. Charles Calderon(D) probably fits the moderate political philosophy of the area better than his rivals, while other sources say L.A. Councilwoman Gloria Molina(D) should NOT be underestimated...

...One reason why the race is so unpredictable is because Prop. 73 spending limits have been LIFTED. Therefore, money is now flowing at a greater rate into all four of the campaigns - with Torres and Flores probably getting more than the others. If you're looking for an issue which tends to dominate, it's CRIME. Both Flores and Calderon have been stressing this more than the others...

...In terms of polling, the key data from the 4 campaigns is still under wraps, but some of it has leaked out. The data shows

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that Torres has huge name ID, but also high negatives. Molina has good name ID too. Flores has only moderate ID, while Calderon has low name ID...

...As for campaign tools, 3 of the 4 strong candidates (Torres/Flores/Molina) have launched AV ballot programs (22,000 AV applications turned in so far); all are using mail; Torres is on cable TV; and there are strong GOTV operations in place for Torres and Molina. More next week...

MORE CHANGES IN ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE CHAIRS. In the latest round of political musical chairs, Assembly Speaker Willie Brown has dumped Tom Hayden(D-Santa Monica) as chair of the Labor Committee and replaced him with Terry Friedman(D-West L.A.). Another chair who has been "relieved of command" is Teresa Hughes(D-L.A.), who headed the Education Committee. The panel has been split in two, with Delaine Eastin(D-Union City) in charge of K-12 and Hayden chairing Higher Education. Sources say Hughes' departure was long overdue...

SAN DIEGO UPSET BY HOUSTON FOR RNC CONFAB. "A sure bet." "No way San Diego will lose out to Houston or New Orleans." "San Diego is a shoo-in for the 1992 GOP Presidential Convention." All quotes from excellent CALPEEK sources. Only problem is that the RNC 1992 convention WILL be in Houston, not San Diego. Final decision by the RNC is due on Jan. 25th...

ORGANIZING CONFERENCE ON HEALTH INSURANCE. The Edmund G. "Pat"Brown Inst. of Public Affrs. will host a day long organizing conference for business & labor on the hot topic of health insurance, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Jan. 17, Pasadena Hilton Hotel. There are 20 or more co-sponsors. For additional info, (213)343-3770...

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FORMER SAN ANTONIO MAYOR CISNEROS IN S.F. Henry Cisneros, the former mayor of San Antonio, Texas, will speak to members of the Commonwealth Club, 11:45 a.m., Jan. 17, Grand Ballroom, St. Francis Hotel, S.F. Cisneros's speech is titled, "Social and Demographic Change and the Future of U.S. Cities." For info (415)597-6705...

THE NEWEST NEWSLETTER — TERM LIMIT LETTER. For all you political junkies, the newest political newsletter to hit the streets is called TERM LIMIT LETTER. It is published by the Federal Term Limitation Committee, P.O. Box 40190, Washington D.C. 20016. The editor is Dick Gentry, who can be reached at (703)356-9370. It looks like this is a freebie - for now...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES. Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook:

- Gene Ulm transfers from D.C. to the Irvine office of The Wirthlin Group. Ulm is a political researcher...

- Speaking of pollsters, in case you missed it, Steve Teichner has closed down his Orange Co.-based Teichner Associates to join L.A. Co. DA Ira Reiner as a consultant on such issues as consumer protection, victim assistance and hate crimes...

- Dan Eaton, deputy director of Majority Services for the Assembly Demos, is the new COS for Assemblyman Richard Katz(D-Sepulveda). Eaton replaces Kathy Fletcher, who jumped to the private sector...

- Marc Dann, who managed S.F. DA Arlo Smith's campaign for AG this past November, is now practicing law in Youngstown, OH...

- John Geoghegan, the outgoing CA Sec. of Business, Trans. & Housing, has joined Sacto-based Kahl Associates, the PA and advocacy firm...

- Bob Gore, Gov. Duke's press secretary, is now a VP for Communications with Sacto-based Assn. of CA Insurance Cos.(ACIC)...

- Ann L. Evanilla of the L.A. Co. Medical Assn. is the 1991 chair of Women In Public Affairs(WIPA)...

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